

MAY 19 1951

Dr. Otto E. Guthe
Special Assistant for Maps
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Guthe:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter under date, 30 April 1951, regarding the conference of 28 March 1951 on "Delineation of the U.S.-Russia Line of Demarcation." Central Intelligence Agency concurrence with conference recommendations is acknowledged.

There are inclosed herewith a finalized report on the conference, a list of coordinate positions of the U.S.-Russia Convention Line of 1867, and a section of U.S. Navy Aeronautical Chart V 70-1 showing a plot of the line. It will be noticed that the report contains amendments suggested by agency conferees, including those changes proposed by the CIA. Future productions of the Aeronautical Chart and Information Service will conform to the agreements reached except as regards symbol. It is proposed to show this line with a short dash symbol and to attach the note "U.S.-Russia Convention of 1867."

The Aeronautical Chart and Information Service wishes to express its appreciation for the assistance rendered by the CIA in resolving this question.

Sincerely,

3 Incls

1. Finalized Rept on Conf
2. Lst of Conv Line Pos
3. Plot of Conv Line

FOR, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF PAUL C. SCHAUER
Colonel, USAF
Commanding

FINALIZED REPORT ON CONFERENCE HELD AT HQ ACIS, 1000, 28 MARCH 1951

SUBJECT: Delineation of US-USSR Treaty Line on Maps and Charts, with Amendments Submitted by State Department and Hydrographic Office

1. Present at the conference were the following:

R. Adm. R.F.A. Studds, Director, U.S. C&GS
Cdr. R.W. Knox, Chief, Division of Charts U.S. C&GS
Cdr. I.E. Rittenburg, Asst. Chief of Division of
Coastal Surveys, U.S. C&GS
Mr. Lansing Simmons, Chief, Mathematical Division of
Geodesy, U.S. C&GS
Lt. Cdr. J.B. Stewart, U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office
Mr. B. J. Maguire, U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office
Mr. Paul Alexander, Army Map Service
Mr. Charles F. Fuechsel, U.S. Geological Survey
Mrs. Sophia A. Saucerman, Department of State
Mr. Arthur Hall
Mr. Loren A. Bloom, Aeronautical Chart & Information Service
Mr. Lawrence P. Brown, Aeronautical Chart & Information Service
Mr. Dewey S. Pegler, Aeronautical Chart & Information Service

2. Purpose of the meeting was to review a proposal of the Hydrographic Office concerning the delineation of the treaty line between United States of America and USSR and to agree on a consistent treatment of this line on maps and charts published by U.S. Government agencies.

3. The convention between Russia and the U.S.A. concluded in Washington 18/30 March 1867 concerning the cession of Russian North American colonies was reviewed to determine the proper delineation of the line, by establishing geographic coordinates of turning points and intermediate points along the line. This was done to assure the uniform plotting by all agencies of the treaty line on various projects. It was agreed that these coordinates would be subject to modification resulting from future surveys, changes in datum, spheroid, etc.

4. In Article I of the 1867 Convention the Bering Sea portion of the boundary is defined as follows:

"The western limit within which the territories and dominion conveyed are contained, passes through a point in Behring's straits on the parallel of sixty-five degrees thirty minutes north latitude, at its intersection by the meridian which passes midway between the islands of Krusenstern, or Ignalook (Little Diomed), and the island of Ratmanoff, or Noonarbook (Big Diomed), and proceeds due north, without limitation, into the same Frozen Ocean. The same western limit, beginning at the same initial point, proceeds thence in a course nearly southwest, through Behring's straits and Behring's sea, so as to pass midway between the northwest point of the island of St. Lawrence and the southeast point of Cape Choukotski, to the meridian of one hundred and seventy-two west longitude; thence, from the intersection of that meridian in a southwesterly direction, so as to pass midway

between the island of Attou and the Copper (Medny) island of the Kommandorski couplet or group, in the North Pacific Ocean, to the meridian of one hundred and ninety-three degrees west longitude, so as to include in the territory conveyed the whole of the Aleutian islands east of that meridian."

5. A description of this Convention Line, extracted from a State Department letter to the Hydrographic Office under date, 12 January 1951, is quoted herewith by way of interpretation.

a. "A point in $65^{\circ} 30'$ North latitude; $168^{\circ} 58' 22.587''$ West longitude. The latter is the meridian between the easternmost point of Big Diomed Island and the westernmost point of Little Diomed Island. It is based on U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey triangulation, May-August 1944, and is on the 'North American Datum 1927.' The point in $65^{\circ} 30'$ North latitude is the turning point at the southern end of the meridian referred to.

b. A point on the meridian 172° West longitude at the terminus of a great circle starting at the first turning point named above and passing through a point midway between the northwest point of St. Lawrence Island and the southeast point of Cape Chukotski.

c. A point on the meridian 167° East longitude (193° West) at the intersection of a great circle beginning at the last named turning point and passing midway between Attu Island in the Aleutians and Copper (Medny) Island in the Kommandorskie Islands. This latter point is the terminus of the Convention Line."

6. It was agreed that the line be labeled "U.S.-Russia Convention of 1867." This treaty line does not constitute a boundary between the waters of the U.S. and USSR except between overlapping territorial waters of both countries in the Bering Strait; elsewhere the waters of Bering Sea are regarded as high seas outside the territorial sea of the two countries.

7. The following delineation of the Convention Line was agreed on:

a. Starting at 72° North latitude in the Arctic Sea, the line will run south on the meridian $168^{\circ} 58' 22.587''$ longitude to a turning point at $65^{\circ} 30'$ North latitude. (It was agreed to carry the "Convention Line" only as far north as 72° North latitude.)

b. From the above point ($65^{\circ} 30'$ N. latitude, $168^{\circ} 58' 22.587''$ West longitude) the line runs almost southwest to a turning point at $64^{\circ} 12.3'$ North latitude, 172° West longitude (point of intersection on the 172^{nd} meridian West longitude by the great circle from $65^{\circ} 30'$ North latitude, $168^{\circ} 58' 22.587''$ West longitude to a point midway between the northwest extremity of St. Lawrence Island and the southeast extremity of Cape Chukotski).

c. From the above point (64° 12.3' North latitude, 172° West longitude) the line runs southwest passing midway between Attu Island and Kupper (Copper) Island and ends at 50° 36.4' North latitude, 167° East longitude (193° West longitude)

8. The Hydrographic Office has determined the latitude for the points in paragraph 7b and 7c above and has furnished the attached outline charts on which the line of demarcation is indicated by a great circle course broken down to increments of five degrees.

9. Based on the Navy requirement to show the Convention Line to assure that the operations carried on in that area would be in waters in which the right of American ships would be unchallenged and to assure consistent treatment, it was agreed that all maps and charts would show the entire line as described in paragraph 7 above.

10. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the standard international boundary symbol now shown on U.S. agency maps and charts of this area will continue to be used unless the State Department recommends otherwise.

11. Mr. Boggs of the State Department later definitely recommended that the standard international boundary symbol employed for land areas should not be used in the water areas of Bering Sea and Bering Strait. It was pointed out that there were very few water "boundaries" extending outside the land areas that properly constitute international boundaries--an example being the United States-Canada boundary in Passamaquoddy Bay extending through the territorial waters only to the high sea. Subsequent discussion with Mr. Boggs disclosed the fact that the State Department would interpose no objection to the use of a dashed line symbol in the presentation of the U.S.-USSR line of demarcation.

12. Revoking the decision reached in paragraph 10 above, the Aeronautical Chart and Information Service intends to use a dashed symbol to delineate this line. Subsequent telephone discussions with participating representatives indicated that most agencies intend to use the dash line symbol as recommended by the State Department. Some agencies, however, wish to reserve final decision pending further consideration.

I agreed to the dashed line symbol on behalf of CIA.

Coordinate Positions for Plot of U. S. - Russia Convention Line of 1867

POINT	POSITION		SOURCE
	Lat.	Long.	
Mys (Cape) Chukotski, southeast extremity	64° 14.2 N	173° 5.5 W	H. O. No. 0057 New Publication 14th Ed. June 1943 corr. to Jan. '48
St. Lawrence Island, northwest extremity	63° 47.3 N	171° 45.8 W	H. O. 5819, 1st Ed. Mar. 1944 Corr. to July 1950
Medny (Copper Island), eastern extremity	54° 32.2 N	168° 00' E	H. O. No. 1690 10th Ed. Mar. 1943; Corr. to Sept. '50
Attu Island, western extremity	52° 55.3 N	172° 26.8 E	U.S.C. & G.S. 9198 4th Ed. June 1947; corr. to Nov. 1950
Initial Turning Point	65° 30' N	168° 58' 22.587"W	✓
Turning Point No. 2	64° 12.3 N	172° 00.0 W	✓
Mid Point between Medny and Attu Island	53° 45.0 N	170° 16' E	✓
End Point, southwestern extremity of Convention line	50° 36.4	167° 00.0 E	✓
5° increments of longitude along great circle arcs	65° 04.2' N	170° 00' W	
	62° 59.4' N	175° 00' W	
	60° 33.5 N	180°	
	57° 28.0' N	175° 00' E	
	53° 31.0' N	170° 00' E	
Starting point of convention line	72° 00' N	168° 58' 22.587 W	✓

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